have consulted and arrived at an agreement with the trade unions or their representatives in the matter; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) According to the wage policy finalised in January, 1987, substantial portion of increase in wage bills consequent on wage settlements are required to be absorbed by way of increase in productivity and other measures of cost reduction. It also envisages that the targets of internal generation of resources and additional resource mobilisation should not get effected in any way. Surplus labour is also to be required to be reduced in a phased manner. The existing output norms are also to be reviewed so as to achieve improved aggregate efficiency.

(c) and (d) Charters of Demands are submitted by the workers unions to their respective Management and not to Government. All the wage settlements are finalised by the Management in consultation with the administrative Ministry, Bureau of Public Enterprises and the Ministry of Finance.

Soft drinks

951. SHRI J. P. GOYAL:
SHRI BIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent Press reports which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 19th July, 1987 highlighting the manner in which the soft drinks manufacturers in the country are fleecing the consumer by charging a very high price for their products; and

(b) if so, what remedial measures are contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Government's attention has been drawn to the Press report.

(b) There is no statutory control on the prices of soft drinks. However, soft drinks' industry is one of the industries covered by the delicensing scheme introduced by the Government in March 1985 and it is anticipated that with the possible creation of additional capacities, normal market forces will operate to the advantage of the consumer.

Sick industrial units

952. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:
SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned "One lakh sick units in India" as reported in the Indian Express dated 13th July, 1987;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to help revive the sick units; and

(d) if so, how and by when the sick industrial units will be made viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) To meet the problem of Industrial sickness in the country, the Government have taken various steps. The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening of the monitoring system and to arrest industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in